

Red Devils finish season with close game

The Decatur Community High boys' basketball dreams of a trip to the state tournament died Saturday as the Red Devils lost 52-46 to Ness City in the final round of substate play in Oberlin.

The two teams played close most of the game, and sometimes had to foul to get the ball back. Ness City was able to sink lots of charity shots and won the game at the free-throw line. For the game, Hill City made 11 out of 19 at the free throw line.

In the first quarter, Ness City took a 9-8 lead. In the second, the visitors added to their lead by outscoring Oberlin 14-9. That gave them a 23-17 advantage at the half.

In the third, Oberlin came back, outscoring Ness City 13-11 to close the gap to 34-30 in favor of Ness City.

In the fourth, however, Ness City scored three two-point and one three-point field goals for 9

points. They team sank nine of 17 foul shots, for a total of 18 points in the quarter.

Oberlin put up eight two-point field goals for 16 points, more than enough to cover the four-point deficit starting the period. However, the Red Devils only got eight chances at the free-throw line during the whole game and hit none of them.

Scoring for the Red Devils were Josh Ritter, 15 including a three-point shot; Dakota Soderlund, 12; Zach May, 7; Keithen Fortin, 6 on two three-point shots; Dalton Jones, 4; and Tyler Bruggeman, 2.

The Red Devils ended their season with a 14-8 overall record and 4-2 in the Northwest Kansas League.

Quinter lead the league with a 5-0 record, followed by Decatur Community; St. Francis, 3-3; Hoxie, 3-4; Rawlins County, 2-3; and Oakley, 1-4.

Oberlin advances to substate playoffs against Hill City

The Oberlin Red Devils wrung the Hill City Ringnecks 52-29 in the second round of the substate basketball tournament in Oberlin on Thursday, advancing to the finals and a chance at going to state.

The Decatur Community High boys dominated the game, shutting the Ringnecks out in the second quarter.

In the first quarter, Oberlin took a 16-12 lead. Then in the second, the Red Devils scored 17 while holding Hill City to nothing. The boys took a commanding 33-12 lead into the half.

In the third quarter, Oberlin again overwhelmed the opposition, outscoring Hill City 14-6. By the fourth, Coach Jeff Jones was able to give his starters a break and the Ringnecks outscored the Oberlin bench 11-5.

Neither team gave up many charity shots. Hill City got seven chances at the foul line, and made five for a respectable 71 percent. Oberlin had five opportunities and was able to sink three for 60 percent.

Scoring for the Red Devils were Josh Ritter, 17, including a three pointer; Keithen Fortin, 11, including three three-point shots; Dakota Soderlund, 11 including three of three at the free throw line; Zach May, 5; Tyler Bruggeman, 4; and Dalton Jones and Garrett Berry, 2 each.

Ritter also led in rebounds with 10, followed by Z. May, six; Soderlund, four; Jones, three; Fortin, two; and Bruggeman and Ryan May, one each.

Ritter and Z. May had four assists each while Fortin had three, Jones a pair, and Soderlund and Bruggeman one each.

Z. May stole the ball six times while Soderlund stole three, Ritter two and Jones, Fortin and R. May, one each.

Ritter blocked three shots and Bruggeman one.

With the victory, the Red Devils got into the championship game, played on Saturday against Ness City.

Girls lose to Leoti in first round of substate

The Decatur Community High girls ended their basketball season in the first round of the substate tournament last Tuesday in Oberlin, losing 80-57 to Leoti.

Leoti hit Oberlin hard and fast in the first quarter, outscoring the Lady Red Devils 21-4. The Lady Indians were able to hit four threes along with three twos and three free throws to Oberlin's pair of two-point field goals.

In the second quarter, Leoti put up 16 points to Oberlin's 12 to lead 37-16 at the half.

Oberlin came out in the second half and pretty much held its own, as the Lady Red Devils put up 22 points to the Lady Indian's 24. Each team scored 19 in the fourth.

Leoti had three players in double digits, including two who scored more than 20 points.

Oberlin senior Jordan Dreher was a standout, scoring 28 points for the Lady Red Devils. She had the only two baskets the girls scored in the sorry first quarter.

Other scorers for Oberlin were Miki Dorshorst, 15 including five out of eight from the free-throw line; Kiah Blau, 6; Jamie Soderlund, 4; Cassidy Shields, 3; and Alexis Hissong, 1.

Oberlin hit nine of 17 free-throw attempts for 53 percent while the Lady Indians sank 28 of 41 for 68 percent.

The Lady Red Devils ended their season with a 9-11 record overall and 3-2 in Northwest Kansas League play.

Hoxie lead the league at 7-0, followed by Oakley 3-2, Oberlin 3-2, Quinter 2-5 and St. Francis 0-5.



AT THE SUBSTATE GAME Saturday night, Josh Ritter went up for a basket when the Red Devils took on the Ness City Eagles in the final round.

— Herald photo by Susan May

Red Devils beat Rawlins Buffaloes

The Decatur Community High boys basketball team won its first game in substate play last Monday, defeating the Rawlins County Buffaloes 63-46 in Oberlin.

Senior Josh Ritter hit 63 percent of his field goals and put up 24 points for the Red Devils while senior Dakota Soderlund and sophomores Zach May and Dalton Jones scored in double digits.

Oberlin took an early 16-11 lead

and outscored the Buffaloes in every quarter.

In the second quarter, Oberlin scored 20 to Atwood's 15 to lead 36-26 at the half.

The Buffaloes never caught up, as Oberlin continued to outscore them in the third and fourth quarters, 19-16 and 8-4.

Oberlin shot 54 percent from the free-throw line, sinking seven of 13 shots. Atwood hit four of nine for

44 percent.

Scoring were Ritter, 24 including a pair of three point shots; Soderlund, 14; May and Jones, 10 each including two three pointers apiece; Keithen Fortin, 3; and Tyler Bruggeman, 2.

Jones hit 67 percent of his field-goal attempts.

Ritter was Oberlin's top rebounder with 10, followed by Soderlund, seven; Fortin, four; May, three; and

Jones, two.

Fortin has the most assists with five, followed by Ritter, four; May, three; Soderlund, two; and Jones, one.

May had four steals and four blocked shots while Jones and Ritter had three steals each.

Fortin had a pair of steals and Bruggeman a pair of blocked shots.

TRIVIA NIGHT

Will be held at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 19 at the Oberlin American Legion sponsored by Alif Be Khe Club Registration at 6:30 p.m. and starts at 7:00 \$5 per person

To Pre-register a team, call Jeni Henningson, 785-470-7008, Kelly Shields, 785-475-7446 or Jane Gilliam, 785-475-3526 or 785-475-2501 Limit of 25 teams Prizes given

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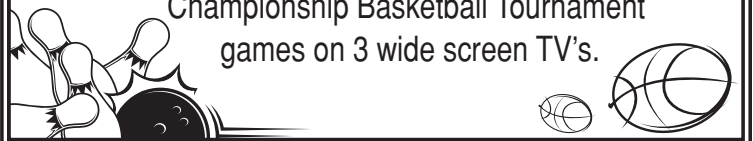
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Judy Scott

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